

Status of President of RK

The President is:

- The Head of State who represents RK within the country and in international relations;
- The Highest Official of the state who determines the main directions of the domestic and foreign policy of RK;
- The Arbiter who ensures concerted functioning of all branches of state power and responsibility of the institutions of power before the people.
- The Symbol and Guarantor of inviolability of the Constitution.
- The Leader of Nation, whose honor and dignity are inviolable.

Election of the President of RK

- The President is elected by:
 - universal,
 - equal and,
 - direct suffrage,
 - under a secret ballot,
 - by the citizens of the Republic who have come of age.
- A citizen of the Republic is eligible for the office of the President of the RK if he is:
 - citizen of RK by birth,
 - not younger than forty,
 - has a perfect command of the state language,
 - has lived in Kazakhstan for not less than fifteen years.

Election of the President of RK (2)

- Regular elections of the President are held on the first Sunday of December.
 - First Round based on Absolute Majority (the candidate wins who receives more than 50 percent of the votes).
 - If needed, Second Round is conducted which is based on Relative Majority (the candidate who receives the larger number of votes is deemed elected).
- President is elected for a five year term.
- One and the same person may not be elected as the President of the Republic more than two times in a row.
 - Note: This rule does not apply to the First President of the RK.

Taking the Office

- The President of the RK takes office from the moment of swearing to the people the oath.
- President swears on the Constitution.
- The oath is taken in a ceremonial atmosphere on the second Wednesday of January.

Competence of the President

- Foreign Policy
- Defense and Security
- Regarding Parliament of RK
- Regarding Government of RK
- Other most important functions

Foreign Policy, Defense and Security

President of RK:

- negotiates and signs international treaties;
- appoints and recalls heads of diplomatic embassies of the Republic;
- acts as the Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces of the Republic.

Competences Regarding Parliament

President of RK:

- signs laws of Republic of Kazakhstan,
 - promulgates laws or returns them for a second discussion and vote;
- may dissolve the Parliament.

Competences Regarding Government

President of RK:

- appoints a Prime Minister with the consent of the Mazhilis; releases him from office;
- appoints and releases from office members of the Government;
- presides at the meetings of the Government on especially important issues.

Other most important functions

PRESIDENT:

- appoints the Chairperson of the National Bank with the Parliament's consent;
- appoints the Procurator General and the Chairperson of the Committee of the National Security with the consent of the Senate;
- annually addresses the people of Kazakhstan with a message on the main directions of the domestic and foreign policy of the RK;
- approves state programs of the Republic;
- adopts a resolution on conducting the all-nation referendum;
- awards state decorations and confers honorary, military, diplomatic and other ranks;
- resolves issues of citizenship of the Republic, and political asylum;
- exercises pardon of citizens.

Premature release and Discharge (Impeachment) of the President

- Premature release from office is possible in the case of continued incapacity to perform duties due to illness.
 - The decision is adopted at a joint session of the Parliament's Chambers by the majority of 3/4 from the total number of deputies of each Chamber.
- Discharge is possible only in the case of high treason.
 - The final decision is adopted at a joint session of the Parliament by the majority of 3/4 of each Chamber,
 - The failure to arrive at a final decision within 2 months results in the rejection of the accusation against the President.

Released or Discharged: What next?

- In case of premature release or discharge of the President from office as well as in case of his death the powers of the President are transmitted:
 - to the Chairperson of the Senate for the rest of the term;
 - if the Chairperson of the Senate is unable to assume the powers to the Chairperson of the Majilis;
 - if the Chairperson of the Majilis is unable to assume the powers to the Prime Minister.